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ABSTRACT

One hundred and thirty-four certified public school art teachers in Louisiana responded to a questionnaire to gather data for a teacher profile which would describe the personal and educational characteristics and professional opinions of these teachers. Data indicate that the average public school art teacher in Louisiana is a married Caucasian American female between 25 and 40 whose salary ranges between $8,501 and $10,000. She holds a bachelor of arts degree with a minor in English or social studies, and either has or is working on a master's degree. She does not teach art privately nor has she had a formal art show of her own in the past year. She feels that her college courses adequately prepared her for teaching, but that the history of education and introductory education courses have been least beneficial. The five major subjects that she teaches are crafts, drawing, painting, printing, and sculpture. She does not teach art history because of lack of student response and inadequate facilities. Her major problems in teaching art are lack of resources, large classes, and the use of art class as a dumping ground. A copy of the questionnaire is provided. (Author/KC)

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PROFILE, PREPARATION, AND OPINIONS

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Research Report Volume 7, No. 7 October, 1977

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LOUISIANA PUBLIC SCHOOL ART TEACHERS: PROFILE, PREPARATION, AND OPINIONS

INTRODUCTION

Funding for this project was a joint effort of the Special Arts Project, Technical Assistance Bureau, Louisiana State Department of Education; the Louisiana State University Bureau of Educational Research; and the Louisiana Education Research Association. In making the study LSU and the State Department of Education personnel were in compliance with the USDHEW policy for research.

The researchers for this study were able to find only one recent survey somewhat related to the topic of this survey. During 1975-76 a consortium including the Louisiana Alliance for Arts Education, the Art Division of the Louisiana State Department of Education, and the Special Arts Project of the Louisiana State Department of Education made a survey of the status of the arts in Louisiana. That survey was sent to all parish superintendents of education, to college art departments, and to arts councils. It was an effort to identify arts programs and resource persons throughout Louisiana. The information obtained by the arts survey was inadequate for the purposes of the researchers of this study.

PURPOSES OF THE STUDY

This study was made to gather data from certificated teachers of art inservice in Louisiana public schools on their personal and educational characteristics and tc solicit their professional opinions concerning their college preparation and present teaching programs. Some of the data gathered will be incorporated in proposals for federal funds for the support of the arts and art education in Louisiana. A report on the study will be supplied to college departments concerned with the preparation of art teachers in Louisiana.

PROCEDURES

The individual Annual School Reports submitted in October, 1976, to the Louisiana State Department of Education by public school principals were reviewed in order to identify inservice teachers reported as certificated in art. Survey instruments were mailed to the 355 art teachers identified. The objective items on the returns were tabulated, and the open-ended items were categorized for reporting. The findings are presented below in approximately the same format as the original survey instrument.

PROFILE OF THE LOUISIANA PUBLIC SCHOOL ART TEACHER

The Louisiana public school art teacher revealed by the returns in this study is a married Caucasian American female between 25 and 40 whose salary ranges between $8501 and $10,000. She holds either an "A" or "B" type teaching certificate enabling her to teach art and English or social studies. All of her classes are in one school, and she sponsors an art club. She belongs to the Louisiana Teachers Association. She had no professional field experiences or "bit" teaching before doing her student teaching in only her major

field in a cooperating public school. Her student teaching experience, she feels, was about the right length. She has had the opportunity to participate in at least one inservice training program for art teachers.

She holds the bachelor of arts degree with a minor in social studies or English. She has, or is working toward, a master's degree. She has not yet attained the "plus 30," but she subsequently plans to work beyond it. She does not teach art privately nor has she had a formal art show of her own in the past year. She cooperates with local community art groups but does not belong to a local civic service club. Lack of finances is the greatest obstacle she faces to a quality art program in her school, but she feels that administrative support with finances, facilities, and workshops would help her program.

She feels that the number of hours of course work now required in art for an art education degree are adequate and that her college courses prepared her for teaching either adequately or well. Art methods and student teaching have been the professional teacher education courses she found to be of the most benefit in her teaching since graduation. She felt that education courses, especially history of education and introductory education, have been the least beneficial of the professional teacher education courses to her in her teaching since graduation. She mentions discipline and motivation as the teaching device, activity, practice, or technique not in any of her professional teacher education courses that she wishes had been included. There is no professional teacher education course that was not in her program that she would have included.

The art major course not in her program she would have had included is crafts. She feels none of the courses in her art major program have been of least benefit to her in her teaching following graduation. The courses in her art major program that have been of most benefit in her teaching are design, drawing, and painting. She feels that she performs best as a classroom teacher in the areas of drawing and painting. This is due to her personal interest in these areas.

The five major subject areas she covers in her art classes are crafts, drawing, painting, printing, and sculpture. Art history is the major subject area she does not cover in her art classes. She cites poor student response and inadequate facilities as the reasons.

During her student teaching in art some of the major problems she faced were lack of resources and discipline. Her major problems today as an art teacher are those having to do with administration, such as class size, lack of resources, and use of art class as a dumping ground.

She is teaching high school art full time, with most of her classes in Art I, although some teachers have a program through Art IV. Approximately 20 are also teaching courses in other fields such as English, civics, and Louisiana history.

THE ART TEACHER IN LOUISIANA PUBLIC SCHOOLS, 1977: PROFILE AND OPINIONS

DIRECTIONS: Please place the number of your chosen response to an item in the blank to the right of the item. For some items, space has been provided for you to explain or comment upon your response.

EXAMPLE: 200. A book usually has:
1. A Plot 2. Metal 3. Print 200. 3

1. Sex: 1. Female 88 (65.7%) 2. Male 46 (34.3%)

2. Age: 1. 20-24 12 (9.0%) 3. 32-40 54 (40.3%) 5. 51-65 1 (0.7%)
2. 25-31 57 (42.5%) 4. 41-50 10 (7.5%) NR* 0

3. Your ethnic origin is best described as:
1. Afro-American/Black 21 (15.7%) 5. Spanish-American Surnamed 2 (1.5%)
2. American Indian 0
3. Caucasian American/White 110 (82.1%) 6. Other 1 (0.7%)
4. Oriental American 0

4. Marital status: 1. Single 40 (29.9%) 2. Married 94 (70.1%)

5. Please indicate the approximate range of your present salary as a public school educator.
1. $7000 or less 5 (3.7%) 5. $12,001 - 15,000 8 (6.0%)
2. $7001 - 8500 24 (17.9%) If more than $15,000, please cite it to
3. $8501 - 10,000 57 (42.5%) the nearest one thousand: 0
4. $10,001 - 12,000 40 (29.9%)

6. What type of La. teaching certificate do you now hold?
1. "A" 44 (32.8%) 3. "C" 31 (23.1%)
2. "B" 40 (29.9%) 4. Life 19 (14.2%)

Subject/teaching areas listed on it:

NR	55	English	16	Spanish	2
Art	63	French	1	Special Ed.	2
Art Ed.	4	Industrial Arts	1	Speech	2
Art K-12	5	Library Science	3	Upper Elem.	2
Biology	1	Math	3	Vocational Home Ec.	1
Commercial Art	1	Physical Ed.	1		
Elementary Art	2	Social Studies	20		

7. You teach:
1. All of your classes in one school. 129 (96.3%)
2. Classes in two or more schools as an itinerant art teacher. 3 (2.2%)
3. Certain subjects in the same school every day but move about to other schools to teach art classes. 0
4. I am a supervisor. 0
5. I am an administrator. 2 (1.5%)

*NR = No Response. Total responses = 134 (38%).

8. Do you sponsor an activity? 1. No 43 (32.1%)
1 sponsor: 2. An art activity group 58 (43.3%)
3. An art activity group and a non-art activity group 14 (10.4%)
4. Only a non-art activity group 19 (14.2%)

If you chose 2 through 4 above, please specify:
(91 chose 2-4 but there were multiple sponsorships)

NR	34	4-H Club	2
Art Club	31	Interact Club	1
Athletic-related: cheerleaders, coaching, pep squad	4	Junior Medical League	1
		Keywanettes	1
		Literary Club	1
		National Honor Society	1
Christmas Dance	1	Publications: Newspaper, Yearbook	8
Class Activities: Council, Officers	6	Youth Art Council of America	8
Exhibits and Productions	4		

Are you a member of:

9. ACT	1. Yes	50	(37.9%)	2. No	82	(62.1%)
10. LTA	1. Yes	83	(63.4%)	2. No	48	(36.6%)
11. LEA	1. Yes	18	(13.7%)	2. No	113	(86.3%)
12. AFT-CIO	1. Yes	8	(6.0%)	2. No	125	(94.0%)
13. La.-ATE	1. Yes	6	(4.6%)	2. No	125	(95.4%)
14. La.-ASCD	1. Yes	4	(3.1%)	2. No	127	(96.9%)
15. YACA	1. Yes	22	(16.8%)	2. No	109	(83.2%)
16. LAEA	1. Yes	43	(32.8%)	2. No	88	(67.2%)
17. LAAE	1. Yes	6	(4.6%)	2. No	125	(95.4%)

18. Prior to student teaching, did you have any professional field experiences? 1. Yes 59 (44.4%) 2. No 74 (55.6%)

19. Did you do "micro" or "bit" teaching prior to student teaching?
1. Yes 57 (42.9%) 2. No 76 (57.1%)

20. Where did you do your student teaching?
1. In a university laboratory school 27 (20.1%)
2. In a cooperating public school 97 (72.4%)
3. In a cooperating nonpublic school 2 (1.5%)
4. Other 8 (6.0%)

21. When you did your student teaching, you taught in:
1. Only your major field 108 (81.3%)
2. Only your minor field 2 (1.5%)
3. Both your major and minor field: 16 (11.9%)
4. Other: 0

22. The length of your student teaching experience was:
1. Too short 24 (18.2%)
2. About right 106 (80.3%)
3. Too long 2 (1.5%)

23. Since you have been a teacher in your present job, have you been offered an opportunity to participate in a special workshop/in-service training program for art teachers?
    1. No 35 (26.1%)
    2. Yes 95 (70.9%)
    3. Yes, in a multi-parish area program 4 (3.0%)

24. Your bachelor's degree was:
    1. B.A. 84 (62.7%) 2. B.S. 41 (30.6%) 3. Other: 9 (6.7%)

25. In what teaching area did you pursue a minor in your bachelor's program?

1. English	26 (19.4%)	5. Art	9 (6.7%)
2. Mathematics	3 (2.2%)	6. None	40 (29.9%)
3. Social Studies	32 (23.9%)	7. Other	23 (17.2%)
4. Science	1 (0.7%)		

26. Have you earned a master's degree?
    1. No 59 (44.0%) 2. Yes 43 (32.1%) 3. Working toward one 32 (23.9%)

27. Have you earned the "Plus 30" status on your teaching certificate?
    1. Yes 13 (9.7%) 2. No 109 (81.3%) 3. Working on it 12 (9.0%)

28. Do you plan to pursue graduate work beyond the degree listed in the previous question? 1. No 39 (29.1%) 3. Yes 40 (29.9%)
    2. Uncertain 55 (41.0%)

29. Do you teach art privately? 1. Yes 30 (22.4%) 2. No 104 (77.6%)

30. Did you have a formal art show of your work within the past 12 months?
    1. No 84 (62.7%) 3. In a gallery with others 35 (26.1%)
    2. In my own show 15 (11.2%)

31. Do you cooperate with the community art groups in your area?
    1. No 55 (41.0%) 2. Yes 79 (59.0%)

32. Do you belong to a local civic service club?
    1. No 112 (84.2%) 2. Yes 21 (15.8%)

33. What do you consider the <u>greatest</u> obstacle to a quality art program in your school

1. Apathy of students	19 (14.2%)	4. Attitude of administrators	14 (10.4%)
2. Lack of finances	52 (38.8%)	5. Other	27 (20.1%)
3. Lack of facilities	22 (16.4%)		

34. What type of assistance is most needed to develop or enhance an art program in your school?

1. Leadership	6 (4.5%)
2. Practicing artists in community	5 (3.7%)
3. Workshops for teachers	34 (25.4%)
4. Identification and utilization of community resources	11 (8.2%)
5. Administrative support	40 (29.8%)
6. Other (describe)	38 (28.4%)

NR 7 Funds 10 Facilities 8 Recognition of importance 7

35. Do you feel that the hours of course work in art now offered for an art education degree are adequate?

1. Yes 70 (52.2%) 2. No 64 (47.8%)

If No, what should be done?

NR	14	More classroom experience	11
More art	16	More practical/craft courses	9
More art; less general education	11	Misc.	3

36. How well did your college courses prepare you for teaching?

1. Very well 39 (29.1%) 3. Not Enough 47 (35.1%)
2. Enough 48 (35.8%)

37. Name the professional teacher education course(s) which you believe has/have been of most benefit to you in your teaching following graduation:

NR	27	None	19	Student teaching	30
Art Methods	31	Psychology: educational, child, adolescent			19

38. Name the professional teacher education course(s) which you believe has/have been of least benefit to you in your teaching following graduation:

NR	44	History of education	18	Psychology	8
All education courses	17	Introductory education	11	Tests and	
Art methods	7	None	6	measurement	9

39. Which teaching device, activity, practice, or technique not in any of your professional teacher education courses do you now wish had been included?

NR	26	More methods	13
Additional work in schools	18	None	6
Discipline and motivation	26		

40. What professional teacher education course not in your degree program do you now wish had been included?

NR	80	Audio-visuals	9	Discipline	9	None	12

41. What course not in your art major program do you now wish had been included?

NR	51	Drawing: freehand		Lettering	7
Additional crafts	16	and projection	13	None	6
Art education	9	Graphics: photography,		Painting	14
Ceramics	8	printing, and printmaking	11	Sculpture	7

42. Name the course(s) in your art major program which you believe has/have been of least benefit to you in your teaching following graduation:

NR	59	Art: history,		None	26
Art education	6	introduction, seminar	9	Painting	6

43. Name the course(s) in your art major program which you believe has/have been of most benefit to you in your teaching following graduation:

NR	42	Ceramics	11	Graphics and/or printmaking	8
All	12	Crafts	8	Painting	23
Art education	11	Design	27	Sculpture	6
Art history	6	Drawing	29		

44. What is the special area of art in which you feel that you perform best as a classroom teacher?

NR	12	Ceramics	15	Graphics and/or printmaking	13
All	6	Clay work	15	Painting	38
Art fundamentals	7	Design	16		
Arts and crafts	18	Drawing	52		

Why?

NR	44	Student interest/accomplishment	16
Most proficient	8	Well-prepared (college emphasis)	18
Personal interest	39		

45. What are five major subject areas which you cover in your art classes?

NR	14	Design	60	Perspective	12
Art: appreciation, introduction, history	29	Drawing	107	Pottery	12
		Graphics and/or printmaking	8	Printing	45
Ceramics	30	Lettering	17	Sculpture	44
Color	25	Painting	53	Water color	11
Crafts	49				

46. What major subject areas do you not cover in your art classes?

NR	33	Graphics: media and photography	15	Painting	14
Art history	28	Jewelry	6	Printmaking	10
Ceramics	21	None	8	Sculpture	22

Why don't you?

NR	42	No library resources	7
Inadequate facilities	19	Not knowledgeable enough	14
Insufficient funds	17	Poor student response	20
Lack of equipment	16	Time	10
No materials	8		

47. If you did your student teaching in art, what were some of the major problems you faced?

NR	36	Resources, lack of: funds, equipment, facilities, supplies	27	Student attitudes	14
Discipline	18			Supervising teacher	11
None	11				

48. What is/are the major problem(s) you encounter as an art teacher today?

NR	11			Discipline	15
Administration:				Resources, lack of: funds, materials, space	80
Art, used as dumping ground	16	}	41	Student attitudes	27
Class size	15				
Lack of backing or cooperation	10				

49. Please list the grade(s) and subject(s) you are currently teaching:

Grade(s)

NR	4	Seventh	25	Eleventh	95
Kindergarten	1	Eighth	24	Twelfth	94
Special education	1	Ninth	80		
Sixth	2	Tenth	91		

Subject(s)

NR 3 No art at all 4

Art Courses

Acrylic painting	2	Commercial art I	4	Leathercraft	1
Art I	102	Commercial art II	1	Multi-media painting	2
Art II	35	Crafts I	10	Oil painting	4
Art III	27	Crafts II	1	Painting	10
Art IV	16	Design	11	Printmaking	1
Art enrichment	6	Drawing	4	Sculpture	5
Art history	1	Individual problem solving	2	Set design	1
Arts and crafts	7	Jewelry	1	Watercolors	1
Ceramics	7				

Non-Art courses

American history	1	Industrial arts	1	Reading	1
Career education	1	Journalism	1	Remedial math	1
Civics	2	Louisiana history	2	Science	1
English	6	Mathematics	1	Social studies	1
Home economics for boys	1	Physical education	1	Yearbook	1
		Psychology	1		